

REMARKS

The office action of November 29, 2004, has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are responsive thereto.

Claims 1-24 and 31-54 remain pending. Claims 25-30 and 55-57 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 13, 31, and 43 have been amended. Support for the amendments is found at least on page 13, lines 18-20.

Rejection of Claims over Rivette in view of Strahorn

Claims 1-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 over the combination of Rivette in view of Strahorn. Applicants traverse.

Claim 1, as amended, recites, *inter alia*:

“closing said window upon receiving user input not associated with said window.”

Rivette requires a user to physically close a window related to an annotation. See step 1806 and column 29, lines 6-14. In Rivette, if the system receives an input not associated with a current annotation window (for instance, designation of new content to be annotated, the system attempts to nest the new annotation under the currently displayed annotation. Claim 1 as amended, however, includes the step of “closing said window upon receiving user input not associated with said window.” Strahorn is silent to this recitation. As neither reference suggests this feature of amended claim 1, claim 1 is believed allowable over the applied art.

Independent claim has been similarly amended and is believed allowable for similar reasons. Dependent claims 2-12 and 14-24 are believed allowable as being dependent on allowable claims.

Rejection of Claims over Rivette in view of Strahorn and in further view of Adler et al.

Claims 31-57 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 over the combination of Rivette in view of Strahorn and in further view of Adler et al. Applicants traverse.

Claim 31, as amended, recites, *inter alia*:

Application No.: 09/455,807
Amendment dated January 31, 2005
Reply to Office Action of November 29, 2004

“closing said window upon receiving user input not associated
with said window.”

As above, Rivette fails to teach or suggest this recitation. Strahorn and Adler et al. fail to teach or suggest this recitation as well. Accordingly, claim 31 is believed allowable over the combination. Independent claim 43 has been similarly amended. Claim 43 and dependent claims 32-42 and 44-54 are believed allowable as well.

Applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner feels, however, that further amendment and/or discussion may be helpful in facilitating prosecution of the case, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 31, 2005

By:



Christopher R. Glembocki
Registration No. 38,800

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.
1001 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001-4597
Tel: (202) 824-3000
Fax: (202) 824-3001